

# **The Snowflake Effect in Learning and Research**

Konvens 2010, Saarbrücken, 8 September 2010

Erik Duval

<http://erikduval.wordpress.com/>

Thanks - merci - gracias - dank u-  
köszönöm - Vielen dank -  
ありがとうございます

MANY thanks

for the invitation !



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2 months ago  
Dear Erik Duval, I'm trying to update the link to my work on PowerPoint. The old PowerPoint thread was: [http://www.edwardduval.com/myboard/q-and-a-fetch-in-sg?msg\\_id=0000fa&topic\\_id=1](http://www.edwardduval.com/myboard/q-and-a-fetch-in-sg?msg_id=0000fa&topic_id=1) The new ...

2 months ago  
Its Alan Kay (not Keye)

3

Tuesday 14 September 2010

interruptions are fine...

*really!*

KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT  
**LEUVEN**

Ontdek jezelf, begin bij de wereld



My team:

technology enhanced  
learning, music & research



language is a virus ...



*learning is  
(the essence  
of being)  
human*



getting better at learning

=

getting better at getting better



we can afford to disrupt learning

all learning resources available to all

will not solve all the problems  
but will act as motor for innovation



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MONDAY | September 08 2008

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A European Association open to the World, for Knowledge **Sharing and Reuse**. The core of the ARIADNE infrastructure is a distributed network of learning repositories.

## Bienvenue à la Fondation Ariadne

Une association européenne ouverte au monde, pour partager et réutiliser la connaissance. Le coeur de l'infrastructure ARIADNE est constitué d'un réseau distribué de viviers de connaissance.

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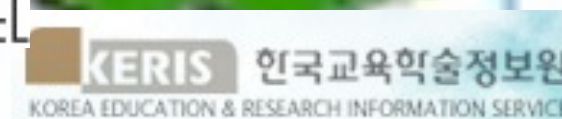
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"Last semester, I had a course in metallurgical engineering. I downloaded an MIT course outline on this, and also some review



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Welcome to the MELT Learning Resource Exchange (LRE) portal for schools where you can find open educational resources and assets from many different countries and providers, including 16 Ministries of Education.

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# 131.436

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<http://lreforschools.eun.org/>





166.637

<http://portal.mace-project.eu/>



“Better problem”: abundance  
but some way to go...

> 3.000.000/day

> 3.400.000.000 total

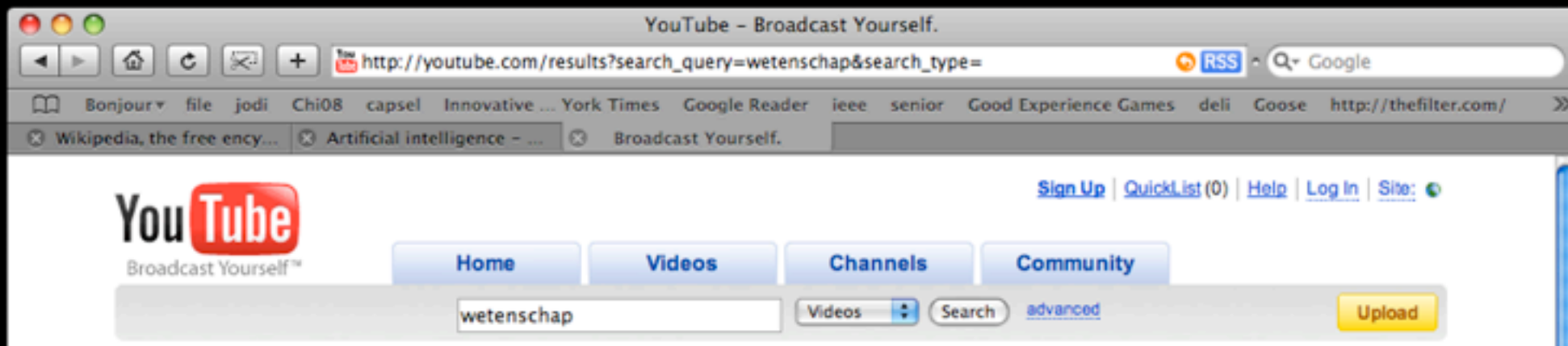


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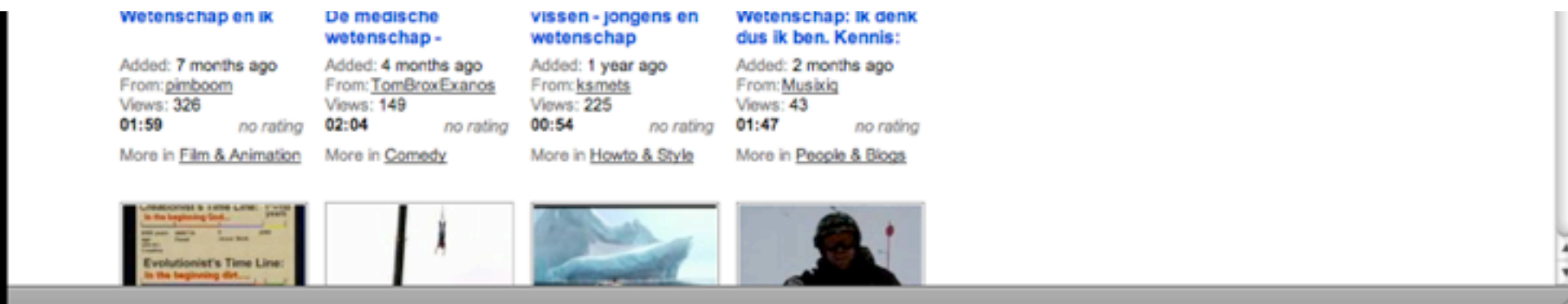
> 30.000.000/day

> 15.000.000.000 total



> 1.000.000.000 videos/day

upload:  
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**English**

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3 041 000+ articles

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634 000+ 記事

## News






*Nature* **438**, 900-901 (15 December 2005) | doi:10.1038/438900a; Published online 14 December 2005

## Special Report Internet encyclopaedias go head to head

Jim Giles

**Jimmy Wales' Wikipedia comes close to Britannica in terms of the accuracy of its science entries, a *Nature* investigation finds.** ▲ Top

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English→



Moodle – A Free, Open Source Course Management System for Online Learning

http://moodle.org/ RSS Google

You are not logged in. (Login)  
English (en\_us)

# 44.000 sites

# 20.000.000 users

# 1.900.000 courses

Moodle 1.9.1 released [more...](#)  
05:11 PM, Apr 25  
Helen Foster  
Google sponsors twelve new Moodle developers [more...](#)  
06:31 PM, Mar 20

## Moodle Development

We have a long [list of developers](#) who contribute towards the development of Moodle. Start with our [developer information](#) as well as the [roadmap](#), the [coding guide](#) and [CVS guide](#) to access our [source code](#). Most discussion can be found in [Using Moodle](#), but we also have a [Tracker](#) where you should report general bugs, feature requests, fixes

support  
hosting  
development  
consulting

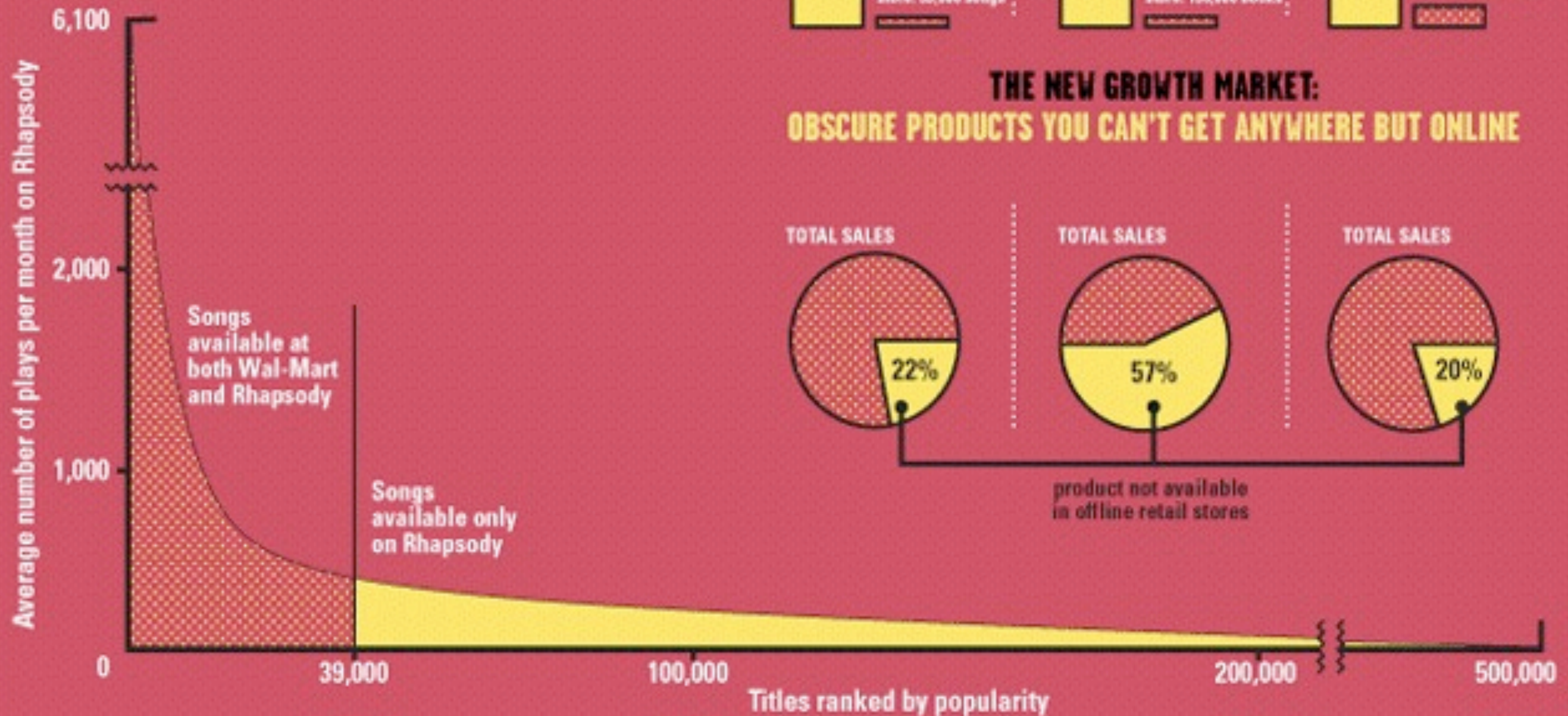
Course categories

more is just ... more ?



# ANATOMY OF THE LONG TAIL

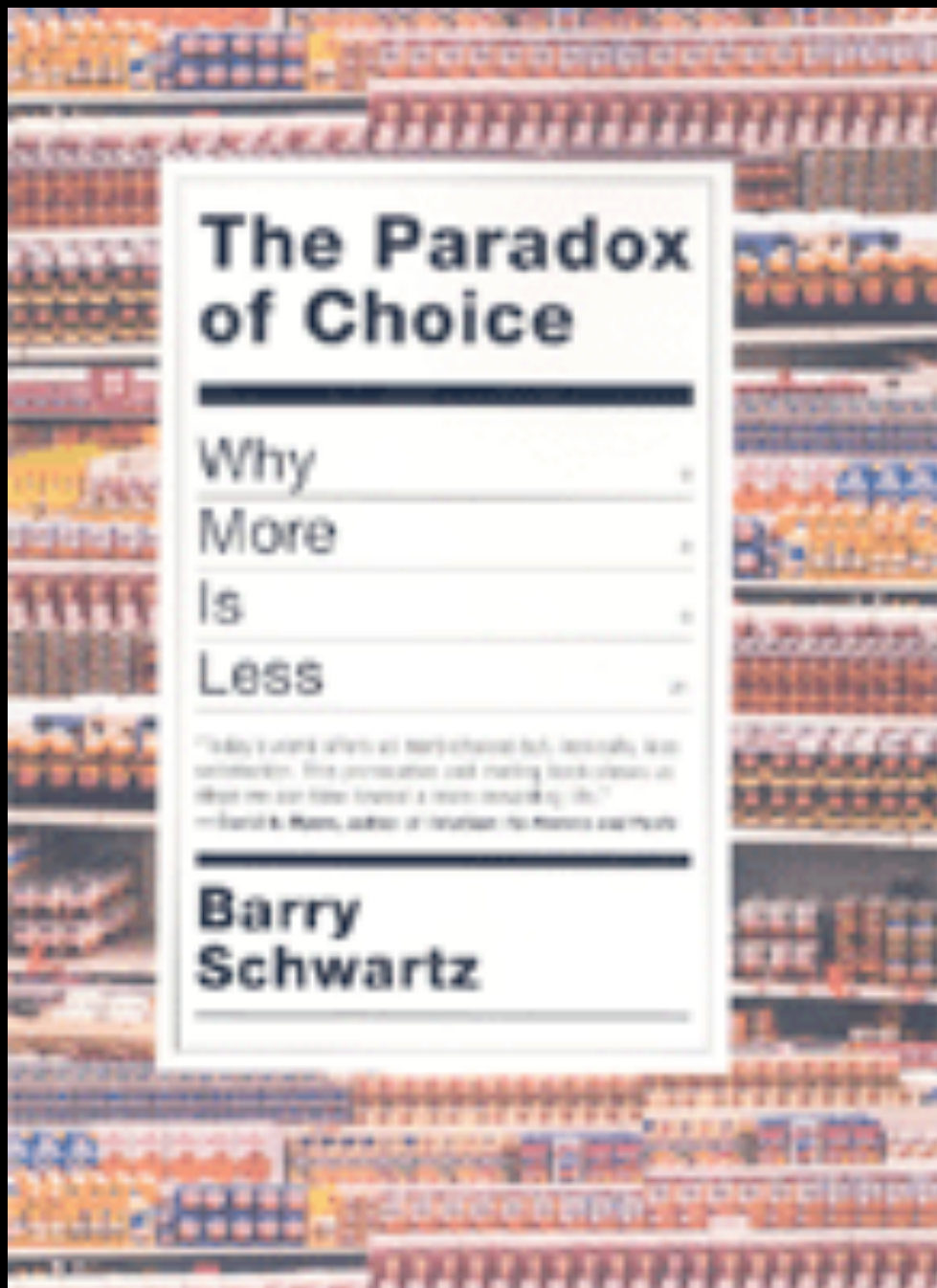
Online services carry far more inventory than traditional retailers. Rhapsody, for example, offers 19 times as many songs as Wal-Mart's stock of 39,000 tunes. The appetite for Rhapsody's more obscure tunes (charted below in yellow) makes up the so-called Long Tail. Meanwhile, even as consumers flock to mainstream books, music, and films (right), there is real demand for niche fare found only online.



<http://www.thelongtail.com/>



# from scarcity to abundance



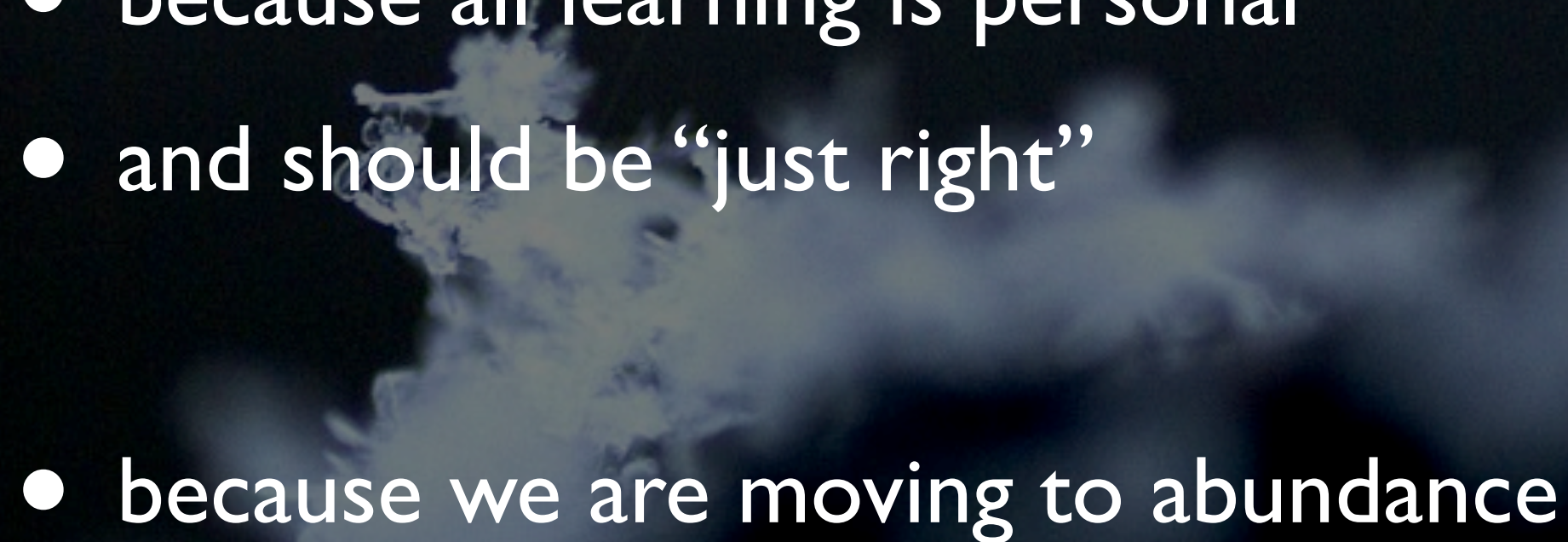
“better problem”

but still: a problem



# snowflake



- because all learning is personal
  - and should be “just right”
  - because we are moving to abundance
- 

~~information overload~~

filter failure

# loads of good examples in music

iTunes Genius, last.fm, pandora.com, tunify.com, blip.fm,  
deezer.com, grooveshark.com, mufin.com, yamelo.com,  
jango.com, imeem.com, musicmesh.net, jiwa.fm, ...  
and *many many many many* more





We do NOT (need to) understand how music works!



# mæve

**MACE | EVERYVILLE**

interactive installation at the Venice Biennale '08

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warning:  
design is difficult...



<http://erikduval.wordpress.com/2008/09/10/laptop-fun/>



<http://aspect-project.org/> <http://www.icoper.org/> <http://www.role-project.eu/> <http://www.stellarnet.eu/>

# Questions?

<http://erikduval.wordpress.com/>

<http://www.cs.kuleuven.be/~erikd>

twitter: @ErikDuval

# Thanks!